

## **Commissioners of St. Mary's County Meeting Minutes (Tuesday, April 19, 2016)**

*Generated by Sharon Ferris on Thursday, April 21, 2016*

### **Members present**

Commissioner President James R. Guy  
Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt  
Commissioner Tom Jarboe  
Commissioner Todd B. Morgan  
Commissioner John E. O'Connor  
Dr. Rebecca Bridgett, County Administrator  
Sharon Ferris, Recorder

### **1. WELCOME**

#### **Approval of Minutes**

I move to approve the minutes of April 12, 2016 as presented.

Motion by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan, second by Commissioner John E. O'Connor.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Hewitt, Jarboe, Morgan, O'Connor

### **2. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

#### **A. DRAFT AGENDA ITEMS FOR MAY 3 AND 10, 2016**

#### **B. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - Budget Amendments for re-aligning FY2016 budget**

1. I move to approve the budget amendment reducing the ADC Equipment Reserve in the amount of \$434,524 and increasing the Commissioner's Emergency Reserve, and authorize the Commissioner President to execute the related document

Motion by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt, second by Commissioner Tom Jarboe.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Hewitt, Jarboe, Morgan

Abstain: Commissioner O'Connor

2. I move to approve the two budget amendments realigning the Sheriff's personal service budget in the amount of \$125,000 to the Adult Detention Center Overtime and \$400,000 to the Law Overtime accounts, and authorize the Commissioner President to execute the related documents.

Motion by Commissioner Tom Jarboe, second by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Hewitt, Jarboe, Morgan

Abstain: Commissioner O'Connor

3. I move to approve the three budget amendments transferring operational funds in the amount of \$434,313 to purchase new and replacement equipment in the Law, Corrections, and K9 Divisions, and authorize the Commissioner President to execute the related documents.

Motion by Commissioner Tom Jarboe, second by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Hewitt, Jarboe, Morgan

Abstain: Commissioner O'Connor

**C. DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION** – Resolution to waive landfill fees for Christmas in April projects

I move to adopt the Resolution waiving the landfill fees for Christmas in April projects associated with the annual program scheduled for Saturday, April 30, 2016.

Motion by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan, second by Commissioner John E. O'Connor.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Hewitt, Jarboe, Morgan, O'Connor

**D. DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION** – Interagency Agreement for Electronics Collection & Recycling

I move to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to execute the Interagency Agreement between the Commissioners of St. Mary's County and the Maryland Department of the Environment.

Motion by Commissioner John E. O'Connor, second by Commissioner Tom Jarboe.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Hewitt, Jarboe, Morgan, O'Connor

**E. DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION** - Intergovernmental Agreement for Design, Construction and Service

I move to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to execute the Intergovernmental Agreement between the Commissioners of St. Mary's County and the Maryland Environmental Service.

Motion by Commissioner John E. O'Connor, second by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Hewitt, Jarboe, Morgan, O'Connor

**F. DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION** - Budget

Amendment: MEMA/FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Modification

I move to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to execute the Budget Amendment in the amount of \$27,299 for Project US-1401 Piney Point Mitigation.

Motion by Commissioner Tom Jarboe, second by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Hewitt, Jarboe, Morgan, O'Connor

**G. DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION** - Oak Crest Center: Resolution to accept roadway into the County's Highway Maintenance System

I move to adopt the Resolution to accept Oak Crest Road into the St. Mary's County Highway Maintenance System.

Motion by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan, second by Commissioner John E. O'Connor.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Hewitt, Jarboe, Morgan, O'Connor

**H. DEPT. OF LAND USE AND GROWTH MANAGEMENT** - FY 2017 Critical Area DNR Grant Agreement

I move to approve the FY2017 Critical Area DNR Grant Agreement, Project MD1727 from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources on behalf of the Department of Land Use and Growth Management in the amount of \$ 8,000 for salary reimbursement of county staff who perform review of permits and other tasks related to the County's critical area, and authorize the Commissioner President to execute the related documents.

Motion by Commissioner John E. O'Connor, second by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Hewitt, Jarboe, Morgan, O'Connor

### **3. MAIN AGENDA ACTION ITEMS**

**A. DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION** - Airport Road Donation to State Highway Administration

**Present:** George Erichsen, Director

A public hearing was held on April 5, 2016. All required documentation was presented at the hearing. There were no comments received during the hearing or during the open comment period.

I move to approve the Ordinance to alter Airport Road by conveyance to the State Highway Administration and to authorize execution of the Donation Plat and Quit Claim Deed.

Motion by Commissioner Tom Jarboe, second by Commissioner John E. O'Connor.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Hewitt, Jarboe, Morgan, O'Connor

#### **4. PRESENTATION**

**A. METCOM** - Presentation of FY2017 Capital Improvement Budget and FY2018 - 2022 Capital Improvement Plan

**Present:** Scott J. Bundy, Executive Director  
Rebecca Shick, Chief Financial Officer  
Dave Elberti, Chief Engineer

The presentation focused on the schedule of project changes from FY2016; funding projections for water and sewer projects; capital improvement rates per EDU; projections on debt and rates; debt ceiling limit analysis; and, rate comparison to median household income.

#### **5. COMMISSIONER'S TIME**

The Commissioners highlighted events attended over the past week and provided general comments.

#### **6. ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 11:22 am

Minutes Approved by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County on \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sharon Ferris, Senior Administrative Coordinator

#### **7. PUBLIC HEARING - FY2017 RECOMMENDED BUDGET, Chopticon High School, 25390 Colton Point Rd., Morganza, MD**

##### **Members present**

Commissioner President James R. Guy  
Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt  
Commissioner Tom Jarboe  
Commissioner Todd B. Morgan  
Commissioner John E. O'Connor  
Dr. Rebecca Bridgett, County Administrator  
Ms. Jeannette Cudmore, Chief Financial Officer  
Mr. Tony Jones, Public Information Officer  
Sharon Ferris, Recorder

Commissioner President Guy welcomed citizens and provided opening remarks. Ms. Cudmore presented an overview of the \$219,782,337 FY17 Recommended Budget. The County's

Property tax rate structure will remain at \$.8523, although the State calculations indicate the Constant Yield Tax Rate for FY17 would be \$.8468. The County's income tax rate will remain at 3%. The allocation for the Sheriff's Office's non-grant activities increased by .5%. The allocation includes implementing the compensation study raising law scale by 9.8% and corrections by 7%. The funding for the Board of Education includes \$96,026,941 for Maintenance of Effort; \$3,690,460 for cost of merit increase provided in FY2016 and required health insurance increase; and \$2,972,992 for non-recurring technology and science textbooks for a total of \$102,690,393. The County funding for elections increased by \$130,174, primarily due to maintenance for new voting machines and replacement equipment. Funding for County department based activities and programs, excluding grants and one-time items, increased by 5.4%, primarily because non-profits agencies were moved under the departments of Aging & Human Services, Economic Development and Recreation & Parks for FY2017. County employees will get a one-step merit increase on their anniversary date. The June 30, 2015 audit reflects an unassigned balance of \$16.6 million that is not being used because of the importance of maintaining a healthy fund balance to help the County weather negative revenue results and avoid sudden disruption or elimination of services. A Public Hearing Reserve of \$198,176 will be reallocated after the Public Hearing based on public and written comments.

Public Information Officer Tony Jones moderated the following 4 public hearings.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING - EMERGENCY SERVICES SUPPORT TAX**

The current Emergency Services Support Tax is \$0.016 and is proposed to increase to \$0.028. The average property owner will see an increase of \$34 annually.

Mr. Jones opened the public hearing for public comments at 7:03 pm.

#### **Charles Shilling, P.O. Box #36, Piney Point, MD 20674**

Represented St. Mary's County Tax Payers United. Oppose increase.

There were no others wishing to speak so the hearing closed at 7:09 pm.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING - SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING FEE**

The solid waste and recycling fee, which covers direct operating cost and related fees, is collected yearly through Property Tax bills. The proposed rate increase from \$60 to \$72 is an increase per property of \$12 annually.

Mr. Jones opened the public hearing public comments at 7:10 pm.

There were no individuals wishing to speak so the hearing closed at 7:11 pm.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING - CONSTANT YIELD TAX RATE**

The recommended FY17 budget does not adjust the real property tax rate of \$0.8523 per \$100 assessed value to the current constant yield rate of \$0.8468. Decreasing this tax would decrease revenues by \$646,521.

Mr. Jones opened the public hearing for public comments at 7:12 pm.

**Keith Harless, 23225 Mirfield Lane, Lexington Park, MD 20653**

Tax rates are not going down as it should. It's a fairness issue. Suggested adjusting (raising) impact fees.

There were no others wishing to speak so the hearing closed at 7:15 pm.

**PUBLIC HEARING - FY2017 RECOMMENDED BUDGET**

Mr. Jones opened the public hearing for public comments at 7:16 pm.

**Non Profits - Against 10% Reduction of Funding**

**Elaine Phillips, 22695 Washington St. #7, Leonardtown, MD 20650**

Executive Director, Community Mediation Center for St. Mary's County

**Thomas Mellies, Glen Ellen Ave., Leonardtown, MD 20650**

Volunteer worker for Community Mediation Center for St. Mary's County

**Laura Joyce, 23150 Grey Squirrel Lane, California, MD 20619**

Executive Director, Southern Maryland Center for Family Advocacy

**Dena Taggerty, Hollywood, MD 20636**

Southern Maryland Center for Family Advocacy

**Steve Cricchi, 23686 J. M. Gough Ct., Leonardtown, MD 20650**

President, Board of Directors, Tri-County Youth Services Bureau

**Nancy Easterling, 44300 Sotterley Lane, Hollywood, MD 20636**

Executive Director, Historic Sotterley, Inc.

**Board of Education - Thanks and Continue Support for Education**

**Anna Laughlin, 41680 Miss Bessie Dr., Leonardtown, MD 20650**

Representing Education Association of St. Mary's County (EASMC)

**Steve Wolfe, 41680 Miss Bessie Dr., Leonardtown, MD 20650**

St. Mary's County Public School Teacher for 40 years (EASMC)

**Jill Morris, 41680 Miss Bessie Dr., Leonardtown MD 20650**

Representing Collective Education Association of St. Mary's County (CEASMC)

**Joe Shade, Dameron, MD**

St. Mary's County Public Schools Building Service Manager at Leonardtown High School (CEASMC)

**Scott Smith, 40825 Spring House Lane, Leonardtown, MD 20650**

Superintendent, St. Mary's County Public Schools

**St. Mary's County Library - Request Merit Pay Increase**

**Michael Blackwell, 23250 Hollywood Rd., Leonardtown, MD 20650**

Director, St. Mary's County Libraries

**Jim Hanlay, 41982 Loker Ct., Leonardtown, MD 20650**

Vice President, Board of Library Trustees

**Youth Center - Request Center be in FY2018 Budget**

**Justin Fior, 22760 Washington St., Leonardtown, MD 20650**

Executive Director, Advocates for Southern Maryland

**Alonzo Gaskin, 16957 Three Notch Rd., Dameron, MD 20628**

**Janice Walthour, 20493 Partin's Lane, Lexington Park, MD 20653**

Representing St. Mary's County NAACP

**Shamia Bowers, 21725 Saint Lo Place, Lexington Park, MD 20653**

Representing Youth/Community Center Campaign Steering Committee

**Miscellaneous**

**C. Aloysius Bowman, P.O. Box 19, Leonardtown, MD 20650**

Elijah International Foundation, Inc./Unify to Unity Movement. Pro community activities

**Bill Birch, 20990 Coltons Point Rd., Coltons Point MD, 20626**

Salaries and benefits of St. Mary's County Government employees

Mr. Jones noted the record would remain open for public comments until April 29, 2015, and closed the public hearing at 8:08 pm.

**8. ADJOURN**